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A List of Dominicans in Ireland, 1832

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# A List of Dominicans in Ireland, 1832

Hugh Fenning, O.P.

## INTRODUCTION

Peter D. Smyth, O.P., elected provincial of Ireland in July 1832, later received from Rome the necessary letters confirming both his election and the acts of the provincial chapter at which he had just presided. When acknowledging receipt of these documents, on 14 September 1832, he supplied the Roman authorities with a detailed list of the convents and their personnel in Ireland. Fortunately he kept a copy, now published here, for the original has not as yet come to light in Rome. The document, consisting of eight pages, is now in the Dominican provincial archives at Tallaght, Co. Dublin, filed under date in the 'Letter' series. It has never been published before, though Luke Taheny, O.P. (d. 1973) used it in some of his writings.

Technically, a list of this kind was called a *catalogus*, but the usual term nowadays is 'directory'. The Irish Dominicans have printed such a directory every year since 1875. The *Irish Catholic Directory*, published annually from 1836, was quite incomplete for its first decade, so far as the regular clergy were concerned, and even after 1846 is at once invaluable and unreliable. Henry Young's *Catholic Directory for 1821*, confined itself to the diocese of Dublin and named only the religious superiors of the capital.<sup>1</sup> In consequence, a list of the kind presented here, covering the whole country and supplying the official status and age of every Dominican, tells us more about the Irish clergy of the early nineteenth century of whom we know so little. An earlier Dominican list of 1817 has already been printed in this journal;<sup>2</sup> there is no later one before 1860.

From the provincial's comments on various houses and individuals, it would appear that he carried out a rapid, if incomplete visitation between 14 July and 14 September. This

<sup>1</sup> Reprinted by P. Cunningham in *Reportorium Novum*, ii, no. 2 (1960), 324-63. This directory is, of course, extremely valuable for the names of the diocesan clergy and for the various religious institutions of Dublin diocese.

<sup>2</sup> H. FFENNING (ed.), 'A list of Dominicans in Ireland, 1817' in *Collect. Hib.*, ix (1966), 79-82.

would explain why his letter, dated from his own 'convent of Athenry' or Esker, was written elsewhere, probably in Dublin. How otherwise explain that the priest he names as 'prior of Athenry' had gone out of office by 1 April of the same year? Similarly John Urquhart, given as prior of Dundalk on 14 September, was on that date already back in his native Galway. The age set down for each individual is approximate; their Christian names sometimes wrong. Nor is the list, with sixty names, necessarily complete: one notices the omission of John O'Connor of Ardagh diocese who was to die in 1836 at the reputed age of 107.

Rather than annotate the list it has been decided, after consultation with the editor, to print, after the list, a tentative biographical dictionary of the sixty individuals mentioned in it. This has the additional and somewhat unexpected advantage of raising more general questions. How many of those who made their novitiate at Esker before 1832 were ordained immediately after profession and before the commencement of their studies? Was the priory of Newbridge a house of studies between 1810 and 1820? Is it possible that some of these priests never studied theology properly at all? There is also the question of the remarkably large number who worked as curates or parish priests. Was this done to help the diocesan clergy or simply to earn a livelihood? One might also study the age-structure of the home province, if only to notice how many died in their thirties or forties.

#### TEXT

Conventus de Athenry, die 14 Septembris 1832. Copia.

Reverendissime Pater,

Litteras humanissimas P.V.Rmae, in quibus actus capituli nostri provincialis et electionem mei indignissimi confirmare dignatus es, die decima huius mensis accepi. Gratias quamplurimas ago pro signis benevolentiae in hisce litteris mihi collatis, licet confusionem plusquam laetitiam infirmitati meae afferre debeant. Regendae huic provinciae me imparem omnino fore, certe scio, nisi haberem consilium et juvamen superioris et capitis tam praeclari ingenii, cuius fama, doctrina, et pietate inclyta ad has usque remotas regiones pervenit. Aliam consolationem fragilitati meae invenio in bono statu huius provinciae necnon item optima indole fratrum, qui paucis demptis, suum erga se et erga Ordinem officium agnoscant adimpleantque.

Inter paucos, numerare merito debet infelix P. [Johannes Dominicus] Brookes, qui contumaciam suam, licet flexis genibus

ego ipse eum deprecatus essem deponere, adhuc recusat. In meliorem tamen frugam reducitur P. Cornelius Coghlan, qui irregularitate innodatur, quae ut tollatur, precor P.V.Revm ut Sacram Congregationem quantocius supplicaret.

Monasterium monialium O.N. de Cabra prope Dublinium, nuper a jurisadictione ordinis sublatum est, inconsulto provinciali ac etiam procuratore generali. Haud magni refert quidem, sed vellem scire qua de causa, vel sub quo praetextu mutatio; et tam occulte, facta sit. Meum est, P.V.Revm hac de re certiore facere, si prudens iudicet aliquam inquisitionem instituere in Sacra Congregatione. Monasterium monialium Pontanense, seu de Drogheda, quod auctoritati P.V.Revmae immediate subjicitur, nunc absque vicario est. Ultimus noster provincialis, Rev. Admodum P. [Andreas] Fitzgerald licentiam obtinuit a praedecessore P.V.Revmae vicarium pro illo monasterio instituendi, sed ipse vices egit pro tempore suo, quo expleto, monasterium capite destituitur. Placeat igitur P.V.Revmae, vicarium quam primum instituere.

Audivimus de novis festis Ordini concessis, sed dubium est, an a provinciis tantum particularibus vel a toto Ordine sint celebranda. Inter haec numerari ducitur Festum SS. Cordis Jesu, quod maxime quidem placet fratribus huius provinciae, cum credant cum doctissimo Manzi, in supplemento Natalis Alexandri: 'Magnam puritati religionis labem incurere cultum carere Cordis'. Sed, ut omne dubium tollatur, oro P.V. Revmam ut festa quae toti Ordini competunt, et quae celebrare obligati sumus et debemus, mihi numeraret. Addere debeo, idem dubium existere, an scilicet sint in hac provincia de praecepto, de festis S. Emygdii P.M., SS. Sindon et aliis recentioribus.

Nunc mandatis P.V.Revmae obtemporans, numerum fratrum ac conventuum expono, scilicet: Sunt in Lagenia quatuor conventus fratrum, Dublinii, Kilkeniensis, Novae Pontis [Newbridge] et Athiensis.

In conventu Dubliniensis sunt sex fratres. Rev. Fr Guilelmus Harold, prior, aetatis 50. Hic frater G. Harold vir est bono ingenio, magna sapientia, doctrina et prudentia dotatus. Fr Johanes Tommins, subprior, aetatis 30. Fr Johanes Cunningham, aetatis 60, praedicator generalis. Fr Lucas Dempsey aetatis 38, procurator conventus. Fr Patritius Dunne aetatis 39. Fr [Augustinus Concanen] Whyte aetatis 28. Omnes fratres huius conventus Dubliniensis plurimum laborant in vinea Domini, in excipiendo fidelium confessiones, et in praedicando verbum Dei. Deo gratias, sunt viri religioni multum addicti, et propter hoc archiepiscopo Dubliniensi, sacerdotibus secularibus, et laicis et populo sunt amati.

Conventus Kilkeniensis habet unum infelicem fratrem [Johan-

nem] Brookes qui habet ostia clausa contra suum priorem, Revd. Fr Alexandrum Fitzgerald, qui coactus est in urbe in domo laici habitare.

Conventus Novae Pontis habet duos fratres. Fr N[icholaus] Frayne, prior, aetatis 32. Fr G. [Michael] Dune, aetatis 30. Hi duo fratres sunt boni et religiosi viri qui plurimum laborant in vinea Domini.

Conventus Athiensis habet duos fratres, Fr Joannes Kennelly, aetatis 61. Frater Joannes [Laurentius] Cremin, aetatis 34. Fr Joannes Kennelly est prior et fuit P. Provincialis. Hi duo fratres sunt boni et religiosi viri et plurimum laborant in vinea Domini.

In Ultonia sunt duo conventus, Pontanensis et Dundalkiensis. In conventu Pontanensi [Drogheda] sunt tres fratres. Fr Georgius Corcoran, prior, aetatis 38. Fr Josephus Barron, aetatis 48, et Fr Thomas O'Shea aetatis 31. Hi fratres sunt boni et religiosi viri et plurimum laborant in vinea Domini.

Conventus Dundalkiensis habet tres fratres. Fr Joanes Urquhart, prior, aetatis 34. Fr Thomas McEvoy, aetatis 40, et Fr Cornelius Coghlan qui irregularitate innodatur. Timeo quod hi fratres conventus Dundalkiensis non implent munera missionaria sicut debent.

In Momonia sunt quatuor conventus, scilicet Corcagiensis, Limericensis, Waterfordiensis et Casiliensis [Cashel]. In conventu Corcagiensi sunt quatuor fratres. Fr Bartholomeus Russell, prior, aetatis 34. Fr Joanes O'Connor, subprior, aetatis 48. Fr Johanes Ryan, aetatis 60, et Fr Patritius O'Loughlin, aetatis 41. Hi quatuor fratres in conventu Corcagiensi sunt viri doctissimi, religiosi et qui plurimum laborant in vinea Domini.

In conventu Limericensi sunt quatuor fratres. Fr Josephus McDonnell, prior, aetatis 37. Fr Josephus Harrigan, aetatis 53. Fr Thomas McDonnell, aetatis 33, et Fr Joanes Hannan, aetatis 29. Hi quatuor fratres sunt boni et religiosi viri et plurimum laborant in vinea Domini.

In conventu Waterfordiensi sunt duo fratres. Fr Joanes O'Regan, aetatis 51, et Fr Michael Malony aetatis 46. Hic conventus non habet priorem, sed statim priorem illic instituam.

Conventus Casiliensis [Cashel] habet solum unum fratrem, Fr Joanem Conway, aetatis 37. Nescio quomodo se gerit, sed spero uti religiosus debet. Hic Fr Conway est solum vicarius.

In Conacia sunt sex conventus: Galviensis, Sligoensis, Stradensis, Urlarensis, Portumniensis et Athenriensis. In conventu Galviensi sunt tres fratres. R.P.F. Jacobus French, magister et prior, aetatis 82. Hic Fr Jacobus French pro tota vita sua laboravit laudabiliter et fructuose pro incremento et bono sui Ordinis. Con-

ventum et ecclesiam edificavit et dotavit in civitate Galviensi. Nunc plenus dierum et meritorum a suo ordine, ab episcopo, a clero et populo juste laudatus et amatus plurimum est. Fr Patritius Hughes, subprior, aetatis 41. Fr Joanes Agnew, procurator conventus, aetatis 32. Hi fratres plurimum laborant in vinea Domini.

Conventus Sligoensis habet tres fratres. Fr Michael Keane, subprior (adhuc conventu carente priore), aetatis 34. Fr Carolus Mullins, aetatis 39. Fr Jacobus Brenan, aetatis 37. Duo primi fratres plurimum laborant in vinea Domini, sed non possum hoc dicere de ultimo fratre, nempe Fr Brenan. Illico priorem mittam ad hunc conventum.

Conventus Stradensis habet duos fratres. Fr Edmundus Clarke, Prior, aetatis 79. Fr Timotheus Fitzmaurice, aetatis 35.

Conventus Urlariensis habet unum fratrem, Fr Lucam Lydon, prior, aetatis 69.

Conventus Portumniensis habet tres fratres. Fr Jacobus Hibbits, vicarius, aetatis 34. Fr Petrus Rush, aetatis 73. Hic frater non est compos mentis hisce duobus annis. Fr Henricus Rush, aetatis 34. In actibus ultimi nostri capituli decretum fuit hunc conventum redigere ad pristinum suum statum, nempe vicariatum esse conventus Athenriensis, seu de Esker. Sed hoc nolo facere sine expressa licentia et approbatione R.P. Revmae. Causa redigendi hunc conventum de Portumna ad vicariatum conventus Athenriensis seu de Esker est, propter ignaviam fratrum illic degentium. Pro ultimis quinquaginta annis hic conventus nihil fecit pro bono Ordinis.

Conventus Athenriensis seu de Esker habet sex fratres. Fr J[abobus] Coghlan, prior et magister, aetatis 72. Fr Gulielmus Fitzpatrick, subprior, aetatis 42. Fr Michael Callagy, P.G., aetatis 54. Fr Patritius Lawless, aetatis 50. Fr Thomas Lynch, aetatis 32. Et humilis servus tuus, Fr Petrus D. Smyth P.G. et P. Provincialis, aetatis 36. Fratres conventus Athenriensis seu de Esker plurimum laborant in vinea Domini in praedicando verbum Dei per villas et oppida, in adjuvando parochos, in excipiendo fidelium confessiones, et in educatione in religione Catholica pauperum puerorum in hoc vicino. Fratres huius conventus de Esker aedificaverunt gymnasium valde spatiosum pro educatione pauperum puerorum, ubi nunc habent sub eorum tutela sexcentos pauperes, erudientes illos in literatura et in religione Catholica.

Alii sunt fratres Ordinis nostri qui munera missionaria pro episcopis in hac provincia exercent. Nempe, in civitate Dubliensi, Fr Raymundus Griffith, P.G., aetatis 33. Hic frater magnus praedicator est et propter suum zelum et pietatem multum amatus est ab archiepiscopo, clero et populo. In eadem civitate est Fr

Jacobus Murphy, aetatis 34. In comitatu Dubliniensi, Fr J[acobus] Carey, pastor, aetatis 51. Fr Joanes Smyth, pastor, aetatis 73. Fr Joanes [i.e. Thomas] Murray, pastor, aetatis 70.

In diocesi Midensi, Fr Joanes [i.e. Laurentius] Shaw, pastor, aetatis 80.

In diocesi Ardiensi [i.e. Ardacensi], Fr Jacobus [Dionisius] Skelly, curatus, aetatis 46.

In diocesi Corcagiensi, Fr Patritius [i.e. Dominicus] O'Gara, pastor, aetatis 71.

In diocesi Kildarensi, Fr Thomas [i.e. Johannes] Mooney, curatus, aetatis 40.

In diocesi Limericensi [i.e. Casselensi], Fr Joanes [i.e. Edwardus V.] McCarthy, curatus, aetatis 28.

In diocesi Elphinensi, Fr Michael Keher, curatus, aetatis 34.

In coenobio monialium de Cabra, capellanus, Fr Joanes Gaven P.G.

En statum provinciae Hyberniae. Turmae quidem parvae sunt, sed multum opitulatur, et valde necessariae sunt in excolenda vinea Domini, in tuenda et augenda fide Catholica, in hoc regno heterodoxorum. Pro his omnibus, mihiq[ue] indignissimo, benedictionem P.V.R. humiliter implorans, sum humillimus et obediens-  
tissimus,

Fr P. D. Smyth P. G. et prior provincialis  
provinciae Hyberniae.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES<sup>3</sup>

**Agnew, Thomas Hubert (1800-71):** Wrongly styled 'John'. Son of Galway convent for which cl. at Esker in 1826; studies untraced; began ministry as bursar at Galway in 1831. Prior of Galway,

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<sup>3</sup> The following abbreviations have been used in the biographical notes:

b. = born;  
cl. = clothed in religious habit to begin one-year novitiate;  
C.C. = Catholic curate;  
d. = died;  
P.G. = Preacher General;  
P.P. = parish priest;  
q.v. = *quem vide*, referring to another in the same list;  
reg. = registered;  
res. = resident;  
s.o. = sacred orders;  
S.T.L. = *Sacrae Theologiae Lector*;  
S.T.M. = *Sacrae Theologiae Magister*;  
S.T.P. = *Sacrae Theologiae Praesentatus*, or bachelor.

1838-40. Suspended by the middle chapter of 1842. By 1844 living outside his convent, engaged in trade, to the annoyance of the rope-makers of Galway city. Seems to have spent the rest of his life as a businessman; reconciled on his death-bed by Thomas Taylor O.P.; d. Galway, 29 May 1871.

**Barron, Patrick Joseph Thomas** (c. 1788-1849): Native of Drogheda; received tonsure and minor orders at Lisbon in 1807. Res. Drogheda from c. 1813; vicar in 1817; subprior in 1819; prior in June 1828. Reg. there in 1829;<sup>4</sup> again prior Drogheda from 1842 until death on 14 June 1849.

**Brennan, James (Francis?)** (1795-1835-): Probably 'Br. Brennan', a novice at Esker 1825-6, and Francis Brennan, an unsatisfactory student at Lisbon in 1829. Originally destined for Spain, but studied at Lisbon which he left for Ireland, without an obedience, in July 1830. At Sligo in 1832, but not over-active in the ministry. Mentioned in a letter (4 May 1835) from Bernard Goodman O.P.: 'Poor Brennan is still suspended but he quests about Sligo.' No further trace.

**Brookes, John** (c. 1792-1840 or 1850): b. Loughrea; cl. Esker 1814 as son of Portumna; studies untraced. Res. Dublin in 1817; prior of Kilkenny by 1828; reg. there, again as prior, in 1829. Alone at Kilkenny in 1832, having shut his prior (Alexander Fitzgerald, *q.v.*) out of the house. Until 1838, occupied the Black Abbey, Kilkenny, despite all efforts by the bishop and successive provincials to remove him. Altar-tomb at Bawnfadda, Radestown North, in St John's parish, Kilkenny, with the date of death 'December 14th, 1840, aged 62' given by CARRIGAN, iii, 267. More likely died in 1850, since the annual Dominican *Ordo* does not print his obit until 1851.

**Callagy, Michael, P.G.** (c. 1777-1855): Son of Athenry (Esker). Received all orders from tonsure to priesthood at Lisbon in 1807. Began his ministry at Esker in 1809; listed as P.G. 'in the convent of Athenry' in 1817, but first signed the a/c books there only in 1823. Named in 1841 among 'the earliest priests to take the pledge'. *Catholic Directory* (1841), 256. Res. at Esker until he died on 5 Jan. 1855, aged 78.

<sup>4</sup> The 'registration' of 1829, so often mentioned in these biographical notes, refers to a text edited by R. WALSH, 'A list of the regulars registered in Ireland: pursuant to the Catholic Relief Act of 1829' in *Archiv. Hib.*, iii (1914), 34-86.



**Carey, James, P.G.** (c. 1771-1850): b. Westmeath; son of Mullingar; ordained deacon and priest at Lisbon in 1793-94. Still at Lisbon in July 1795, but returned to Mullingar by 1796. C.C. Stamullen, diocese of Meath, from 1798; C.C. Swords, diocese of Dublin, from 1802; P.P. Swords from 1806 until his death. Made vicar of Dominican nuns, Drogheda in 1827. Built new churches in Swords (1827) and Malahide (1843). Bequeathed £1,200 to St Saviour's priory, Dublin. Died 14 Jan. 1850, aged 77. Mural slab in parish church, Swords. Portrait in [A. COLEMAN], *Souvenir of the Calaroga Bazaar* (Dublin, 1899), p. 37. Notice by L. Taheny in *Reportorium Novum*, iii (1961-4), 155.

**Clarke, Edmund Albert, P.G.** (c. 1758-1840): b. Leitrim, Co. Roscommon; cl. San Clemente, Rome, for Clonsshanville convent, 1784. Returned sick to Ireland in 1786 but reappeared about 1789 at S. Domenico, Genoa, to continue his studies. At Lisbon from 1791, and returned thence to Ireland about 1798. Prior of Strade, Co. Mayo, in 1817 and retained that office until death. Reg. in 1829 as 'resident in abbey of Strade'. Died as the last prior of Strade and P.P. Swinford, diocese of Achonry, in January 1840.

**Coghlan, Cornelius D.** (1798-1872): b. probably at Eyrecourt, Co. Galway, the son of John Coghlan, a farmer, and Catherine Duffy his wife. Elder brother of James Coghlan, O.P., of Boula (d. 1881). Cl. Esker in 1815; studies apparently in Spain. Began his Irish ministry by 1825 and soon res. Dundalk where by 1828 had built a poor school, a classical school, and begun to erect a 'comfortable chapel'. Prior of Dundalk in 1830 and res. there until his departure for New South Wales in 1842. His canonical irregularity, noted by the provincial in 1832, partly caused by his fund-raising which annoyed the archbishop of Armagh. The latter declared in 1838 that 'even an angel from heaven could effect but little good whilst Mr Coghlan remains at Dundalk.' P.P. of Brisbane Water (1843-63) and later (1863-9) of Port Macquarie. Broken in health, came then to Dapto where he died on 2 June 1872.

**Coghlan, James senior, STM** (1760-1835): Native of 'Brize', probably Brees, Co. Mayo; cl. Esker for the convent of Esker 1778 with Thomas Coghlan, apparently his brother. No record of ordination at Lisbon, but Corpo Santo gave him 50 stipends in 1788. Began his ministry at Esker by 1789 when he signed a/c book as subprior. Res. at Esker for the rest of his life, though possibly absent (working as C.C.?) for two short periods: 1792-5 and 1806-09. P.G. by 1796; S.T.P. by 1806; S.T.M. from 1831. Subprior Esker 1789-92.

Three times prior: 1810-13, 1816-19, 1826-32. The convent received money from his (Dominican) executor on 2 April 1835, earlier than the obit (26 April) given by the *Catholic Directory* (1836), 148.

**Conway, John** (c. 1794-1866): b. Kedragh (also Killdragh, parish of Nortlestown), Co. Tipperary. First appears, already res. at Cashel, when registered in 1829. Listed as res. at Cashel in the *Catholic Directory* from 1844 until his death. Styled 'prior of Cashel' in the issues for 1844 and 1848; 'prior of Thurles', where the Dominicans never had a house, in those for 1846 and 1847. The Order, after 1832, seems to have forgotten him. Died 11 Sept. 1866, the last of the Dominicans of Cashel.

**Corcoran, George Dominic** (c. 1796-1852): b. Loughrea, Co. Galway. First educated by Rev. Mr Darcy at Celbridge, Co. Kildare; cl. Esker for the convent of Esker, 1814. Received all sacred orders at Lisbon, 1816-19. Began his ministry in Ireland in 1819; quested for Esker in 1822 and 1824, but worked also in Leinster before 1828. Res. at Drogheda by 1829; prior there in 1832. Volunteered in 1838 to work under his confrère, Bishop Raymund Griffith (*q.v.*) in Capetown, where he remained two years. Sent in 1840 as the first Catholic missionary to Port Elizabeth where res. until 1852. Wishing to provide better parish buildings, he set off to raise funds in Réunion, Brazil and the United States, but d. of yellow fever at Rio de Janeiro on 14 July 1852 and he was buried at Porta di Caoa.

**Cremmin, Laurence Vincent**, P.G. (1797-1866): Wrongly styled 'John'; b. 21 Nov. 1797 in Knockany parish, Co. Limerick; nephew of John Kennelly O.P. (*q.v.*). Early education at Bruff, near Knockany; cl. 1818 for the convent of Athy in the college of St Thomas, Madrid, where studied for seven years. Res. Athy 1825-61; twice prior of Athy, 1843-9 and 1853-61. Changed site of house and chapel from the Dublin road to the western side of the Barrow; got a lease of the present site in 1846 and in 1854 persuaded the Duke of Leinster to convert the lease into a fee farm grant. Removed in 1861 to St. Saviour's, Dublin where d. 10 June 1866. Buried Richmond cemetery, Dublin. Tomb-inscription (with the false reading 'Cummin') in the *Irish Rosary*, ii (1898), 241. Portrait reproduced by [A. COLEMAN], *Souvenir of Calaroga Bazaar*, (Dublin, 1899), p. 37.

**Cunningham, John Dominic**, P.G. (c. 1772-1837): cl. for the convent of Coleraine c. 1794. Received all s.o. at Lisbon, 1796-98; left

Corpo Santo there for Ireland, Oct. 1800 and at once began his ministry, not in a convent but in Dublin diocese. C.C. Blanchardstown (1806-08) and Coolock (1809-12). At Dublin, though not in convent, in 1817. Named confessor and vicar of the Dominican nuns, Drogheda, in 1819. Probably by then res., as in 1820, at Denmark Street priory, Dublin. Vicar provincial and visitor in 1823. At Rome (1825-6), teaching Hebrew at the Minerva and acting briefly as bursar and vicar of San Clemente. Vicar and confessor of the Dominican nuns, Cabra, Dublin, 1826-30. Res. Dublin priory by 1832; d. there 27 Jan. 1837; buried in Richmond cemetery. Said to have been 'pious but eccentric'. Notice by L. Taheny in *Reportorium Novum*, iii (1961-4), 157.

**Dempsey, Luke Dominic** (c. 1798-1852-): b. Thomastown (west of Kilcock), Co. Kildare; cl. Esker in 1816; received all s.o. at Lisbon, 1819-21. Left Lisbon for Ireland after May 1822. Then served 'in various parts of Ireland' but res. convent Dublin 1829-52. At that point a difficulty arose with his superiors concerning property which he claimed as his own. In consequence, he seems to have left the order.

**Dunne, Michael J.** (c. 1802-34): Wrongly styled 'G.'; b. Kildare; received all s.o. at Lisbon in 1827. The rector of Corpo Santo, Lisbon, complained in August 1829 that he was an unsuitable student who had come to the college from Spain and should be sent home at once. Res. Newbridge from 1829 until his early death on 5 Feb. 1834. Buried in convent chapel. A most exemplary priest; brother of Patrick J. Dunne (*q.v.*). See V. Leahy, *Newbridge Quarterly* (summer, 1947), 9-12, 69.

**Dunne, Patrick Thomas, P.G.** (c. 1794-1865): b. Clonad, parish of Ratreen (Raheen?), Co. Laois; brother of Michael Dunne (*q.v.*). Cl. at Esker for convent Newbridge 1816; no trace of studies abroad. Res. Newbridge 1819-28. By March 1827 vicar-provincial and giving offence to the nuns of Cabra. Res. Denmark St., Dublin, 1829-34. Returned briefly to Newbridge. Res. Dundalk 1834-65. Prior Dundalk 1835, 1848-54, 1860-5; did much for Dominican church and schools there. Prior provincial 1844-48. d. at Dundalk, 27 Sept. 1865.

**Fitzgerald, Alexander Thomas** (c. 1770-1833): received all s.o. at Lisbon, 1795. P.P. Lorrha, Co. Tipperary, diocese of Killaloe, 1796-1815. Prior of Lorrha in 1800. When making his will in 1809 was pastor also of Dorrha where he lived, owned cattle and had a

farm. Completed the building of a church at Lorrha in 1812. Left for the U.S.A. in 1815, leaving his chalice (now missing) with the Dominicans of Cork. Returned about 1830 and named prior of the Black Abbey, Kilkenny, where his only subject, John Brookes (*q.v.*), forced him to live with laypeople. Died 'at the Butts', Kilkenny, 17 Aug. 1833. Probably the last Dominican of Lorrha.

**Fitzgerald, Andrew** (1763-1843): b. Kilkenny city, son of a merchant; attended the Protestant Kilkenny College; cl. at Holy Cross, Louvain, about 1779. Later a student and teacher at Corpo Santo, Lisbon, where ordained about 1787. Returned to Kilkenny in 1791 where he was co-director of St Canice's College and broke new ground by giving a public course in philosophy. Removed to Carlow College in 1800 as professor of classics, later teaching philosophy and theology. Encouraged the foundation of the Presentation convent at Carlow from 1810. Declined in 1814 an offer to teach Scripture at Maynooth. Briefly abandoned Carlow in autumn 1813 to help found a Dominican school at Bloomfield, Dublin, but returned very soon at the request of his students. President of Carlow College from 1814 until his death. Provincial of Ireland, much against his will, 1828-32. A good friend to Mother Catherine McAuley and to many bishops for whom he worked or who had been his pupils. Died at Carlow, 14 Sept. 1843. Fine portrait in Carlow College, reproduced by P. Brophy, with an excellent article, in *The Carlovian* (1949), 19-30.

**Fitzmaurice, Timothy** (c. 1799-1833): b. Ballyhaunis, Co. Roscommon. Apparently the 'Br. Fitzmaurice', novice at Esker in 1828. Reg. in 1829, being then res. at Strade, Co. Mayo. No evidence of studies. At Strade also in 1832, but d. at Galway, 14 Aug. 1833.

**Fitzpatrick, William Dominic**, P.G. (c. 1791-1856): b. Ballindine (south of Claremorris), Co. Mayo. Novice at Esker, 1819; questing for Esker in 1821. Studies in Italy; reached Rome (La Pace) in Sept. 1822 but sent in November following to S. Domenico, Perugia. At Perugia 1822-5 and Rome (San Clemente) 1826-7. Then returned to Esker where he first signed the a/c book in 1828 and stayed there for life. Reg. in 1829. Prior of Esker 1832-5 and again from 1854 until his death on 1 May 1856. Note: the list of 14 Sept. 1832 names Fitzpatrick as subprior Esker, whereas he had been prior since April.

**Frayne, Nicholas Thomas**, P.G. (1804-1886): b. Balraheen near Maynooth, Co. Kildare. Cl. Newbridge for the convent of New-

bridge, 1822. Studies in Lisbon where received all s.o. in 1825-6. Returned to Newbridge in 1827 and stayed there for life. Prior Newbridge 1829-35 and 1842-9. Built a new priory in 1831 and a church in 1870. After his death on 21 June 1886, buried in his new church to which a steeple was later added in his memory. His portrait, at Newbridge College, reproduced with other details by V. Leahy, *Newbridge College Annual* (1948), 10-12.

**French, James Thomas, S.T.M.** (1749-1834): baptized at Galway, 10 Oct. 1749, son of John French and Mary Smith. Cl. at Rome (Minerva) 1764; studies at San Clemente from 1765. Received tonsure and minor orders at Rome, March 1768; to Genoa (S. Maria de Castello) in November 1768; to Cremona in summer 1770 where received subdiaconate, March 1771. Then to Lisbon where received diaconate in December 1771 and priesthood in 1772. Went from Lisbon to London (1773) as chaplain at the Sardinian embassy, but returned to Galway by 1775 and res. there for life. Appointed P.G. 1788, S.T.P. 1791, and S.T.M. 1796. Prior of Galway in 1777, 1779, 1792, 1794, 1813-14, 1823-6 and 1832. Highly praised by provincial Smyth (list of 1832); had built and endowed both church and convent at Galway; 'beloved by bishop, clergy and people'. On his death at Galway (15 Nov. 1834) was said to have been prior for 33 years. Fine portrait at the Cladagh, Galway, in which he bears a silver-headed cane. Large collection of his personal documents (ordination certificates, etc.) in provincial archives.

**Gavin, John Albert, P.G.** (c. 1791-1839): b. barony of Lower Ormond (where convent Lorrha situated), Co. Tipperary. First appears as a deacon at Newbridge, Dec. 1811. Studies untraced. Sent to Kilkenny 1814, but withdrawn to Limerick in Feb. 1816 to placate the bishop of Ossory; his removal greatly incensed Richard Hayes, O.F.M., then fighting for the regular clergy. At convent Dublin by 1817, but at Cork from 1819, perhaps to 1827. Prior Dublin, 1828-30; res. chaplain Dominican nuns Cabra, 1830-6. Res. Dublin convent from 1836 until death. Author of *A Sermon on the Rosary* (Dublin) 1838 and earlier of a *Sermon preached on giving the White Veil to a Postulant*. Said to have died of a stroke while preaching at Boula on 14 July 1839. Styled in his official obit a 'son of Dublin'. Bernard Goodman, O.P., said Gavin was 'an honest man but a queer fellow'.

**Griffith, Raymund Patrick, P.G.** (1798-1862): b. St Mary's parish, Limerick; cl. at Corpo Santo, Lisbon, 1816, but then travelled to Rome where professed at S. Prassede, 1817. Completed studies at

S. Maria della Pace and returned to Limerick in 1821, the year of his ordination. Prior Dublin from 1823; briefly at Limerick (1826) but removed to Kilkenny in 1827. Soon moved to Dublin where (by 1829) already C.C. St Andrew's parish: first Townsend Street chapel and later in the new church at Westland Row; made some reputation as a preacher and bravely tended the cholera victims of 1830-31. Chosen in 1835 as bishop of Madagascar but consecrated at Westland Row on 24 Aug. 1837 as vicar apostolic of the Cape of Good Hope. Landed safely at Capetown (1838) accompanied by his brother and sister, George Corcoran, O.P. (*q.v.*) and Daniel Burke, O.F.M. He found no priest, church, parish or Catholic school in the colony. In 1847, the territory was divided, leaving Bishop Griffith with the Western Province, based on Capetown, where by now he had built a cathedral. Save for a visit home in 1851, the bishop remained in S. Africa, where he died on 18 June 1862 and was buried in his cathedral. Miniature in St Saviour's, Dublin. Notice by H. Fenning in *Dict. d'Hist. et de Géographie Ecclés.*, XXII, cc. 211-13.

**Hannan, Daniel Joseph** (c. 1800-1837): Wrongly styled John. Novice at Rieti (Italy) 1825-26; then briefly at San Clemente before going to Perugia as a student-priest in 1827. Returned to S. Clemente in Oct. 1829 with the title of *lector* (S.T.L.) but moved on to Città di Castello in Feb. 1830. Returned to Ireland by 1831, probably to Limerick where res. 1832 and where d. 8 Sept. 1837.

**Harold, William Vincent**, S.T.M. (c. 1776-1856): b. Naas, Co. Kildare, nephew of James Harold, successively P.P. of Kilcullen and Saggart, transported to Australia in 1798. (Uncle of William Dominic Harold, O.P. (d. 1830).) Studies at Corpo Santo, Lisbon, where received all s.o. 1796-99 and was briefly vicar of the college at the beginning of 1801. Res. Dublin, his convent of affiliation, from 1801; prior Dublin 1808. Also in 1808, went to Philadelphia, where named vicar-general in 1810. The arrival there in 1811 of his uncle James from Australia, with consequent personal difficulties between the bishop and Harold senior, led William to return to Dublin in April 1813. Founded Bloomfield College, Merrion, 1813-16. Prior Dublin 1816-18; then immediately went as professor to Corpo Santo. After a long visit to Rome (Nov. 1820 to April 1821), returned to Lisbon as rector, but only from May to Sept. 1821. Then left at once for Philadelphia at the request of the bishop. Vicar-general of Philadelphia before the close of 1821. Took a successful part in putting down the schism led by William Hogan, but lost the bishop's favour and (as a result of intrigue) was

asked by Rome to leave Philadelphia for Cincinnati. Returned instead to Dublin in 1829 and stayed there for the rest of his life. Author, in Philadelphia, of several controversial pamphlets. Prior Dublin 1830-36; praised in 1832 by Provincial Smyth for his 'intelligence, wisdom, doctrine and prudence'; prior provincial 1840-44; prior Dublin 1845-49. From about 1849 he lived (for reasons of health) with the Corbet family of Ballinteer, but kept his room at Denmark Street and continued to serve the chapel. D. at Ballinteer on 29 Jan. 1856; buried Richmond cemetery. Miniature portrait and tomb-inscription reproduced in *Irish Rosary*, ii (1898), 190, 241. Notice by H.J. Nolan in *New Cath. Encycl.*, vi, 930-31.

**Harrigan, Simon Joseph, P.G.** (c. 1779-1838): b. Limerick city; cl. Esker 1803. Student at Lisbon in 1805, but not ordained there. Began his ministry at Esker (1808-09). Res. Limerick from 1809; printed book on the Rosary Confraternity, 1810; prior Limerick 1814-19. The driving force in the abandonment of the chapel in Fish Lane (used 1780-1816) and the building of a proper church near Pery Square of which the foundation stone was laid in 1815; built also a new priory in which he intended to have a novitiate. Encouraged by Francis O'Finan, O.P., in Rome and Patrick Gibbons (provincial 1812-16), he obtained in 1817 the approval of the Dominican vicar-general and of Propaganda for an extraordinary scheme: henceforth, the convents of Dublin and Limerick would be under the immediate jurisdiction of the master general and no longer subject to the Irish provincial. Both Gibbons and he, who were to be 'perpetual priors' of Dublin and Limerick, visited Rome on this business in 1817. After strong protests from other Irish Dominicans, Propaganda cancelled this arrangement in 1820. Prior of S. Clemente from June to August 1819; prior Limerick 1822-3; but prior of S. Clemente again from Feb. 1824. During this second term he did good work on the material improvement of S. Clemente, but resigned on 4 June 1826 and returned to Limerick for good. D. at Limerick on 23 Jan. 1838 and buried in the centre aisle of his church: the tombstone is under the tiles, 23 feet from the communion-rail. Inscription and other details in J. J. CARBERY, *A Chronological Account . . . Dominican Convent Limerick* (Limerick, 1866). There is an enormous correspondence on the 'immediate jurisdiction' affair in APF, CP 152.

**Hibbitts, Thomas Dominic, S.T.M.** (c. 1804-1891): wrongly styled 'James'; b. Co. Galway; cl. Esker 1823. Studies Lisbon where received a.ll s.o. 1825-26; left Lisbon 1827 and next appears at Galway, 1829. Res. Boula (Portumna) from 1831 but left in 1833 for



Sligo where he spent the rest of his life. From 1840, several times prior of Sligo where he helped build the church completed in 1852. Died at Sligo on 3 Nov. 1891.

**Hughes, Patrick Peter Martyr, P.G.** (c. 1795-1841): accepted as a postulant by Galway community in April 1814 and cl. at Lisbon in June; professed at Corpo Santo as a son of Galway in 1816 but left at once for Rome. A brilliant student at Viterbo (La Quercia) from 1817 until his return to Rome (La Pace) in 1821 as a *lector* (S.T.L.). Permitted in May 1823 to go to Ireland 'on business'. Began his ministry at Galway by Oct. 1823 and there remained until death. Vicar of Dominican nuns, Galway, 1826. Prior Galway, 1828-31; named P.G. in 1831; subprior in 1832; again prior Galway, 1835-7. D. of fever at Galway on 18 Aug. 1841. His passport (1816-23) and some of his MSS sermons in Irish are in the provincial archives (Tallaght).

**Keane, Michael** (c. 1798-1834): b. Co. Roscommon; nephew of Bartholomew Keelty O.P. (d. 1830) and first cousin of Bartholomew Keher O.P. (q.v.). Cl. at Esker, 1822; studies at Lisbon, 1823-7, but not ordained there. The Galway community, in Sept. 1827, mentioned the recent departure of 'Fr Cain' who, if identical with Keane, went on to Sligo where he was subprior in 1832 and d. 4 Aug. 1834.

**Keher, Bartholomew Hyacinth** (c. 1800-1872): wrongly named 'Michael'; b. Rathcaron (Rathcurran?), parish of Ballintober, Co. Roscommon; nephew of Barth. Keelty O.P. and first cousin of Michael Keane O.P. (q.v.). Cl. at Esker, 1822; studies at Lisbon, 1823-26, but not ordained there. When reg. in 1829, res. with his Dominican uncle at Castlecoote, Co. Roscommon. Prior of Roscommon from 1829, but alone after his uncle's death (1830) until the convent closed in 1844. P.P. Athleague, diocese Elphin, by 1837, and P.P. Fuerty at the time of his death on 11 Oct. 1872. The two parishes may have been united during his time. Excellent photograph in provincial archives.

**Kennelly, John, S.T.M.** (c. 1764-1842): b. Knockaney, Co. Limerick; uncle of three Dominicans – Michael McMahon (d. 1828), Laurence Cremin (q.v.), William D. Connolly (d. 1865) – and of a diocesan priest, brother of Michael McMahon. Cl. for the convent of Kilmallock at Louvain in 1787; received all s.o. at Malines in 1790; remained at Holy Cross, Louvain, until the arrival of the French army in 1794. C.C. in Co. Limerick, probably at



Knockaney or Pallasgreen, 1794-1809. Res. Newbridge from 1809 and at Athy from 1812 to the end of his days. C.C. Athy, diocese of Dublin, 1816-23. Prior Athy, 1817 to 1841, in which latter year was named vicar of the house by a provincial who noted that Kennelly was 'no ordinary divine'. Prior provincial, 1820-24. D. at Athy, 25 Dec. 1842 and buried St Michael's cemetery. The tomb-inscription says he 'reared five relatives for the church of God – a brother and four nephews'. Inscription reproduced in *Journal Soc. Pres. Memorials of the Dead*, iv (1898-1900), 75. Notice by L. Taheny in *Reportorium Novum* iii (1961-4), 160-1.

**Lawless, Patrick Vincent** (c. 1792-1846): b. Loughrea, Co. Galway; cl. at Newbridge for the convent of Newbridge, 1810. Studies untraced. Res. convent Dublin, 1826, when provincial said Lawless 'never had jurisdiction in the order'. Still at Denmark Street, Dublin when reg. in 1829. Signed the Esker a/c book in 1830 and res. there in 1832. At Boula (Portumna) 1841-3 and again at Esker from Nov. 1843 until his death. Probably on the diocesan mission in Galway or Clonfert since Esker received 'by his death' £29 by 22 Oct. 1846 and £110 in June 1847.

**Lydon, Luke** (c. 1763-1833): also written Leyden; studies at Corpo Santo, Lisbon, c. 1788 and probably ordained there. Corpo Santo gave (or sent) 150 stipends to 'Padre Leydon' in July 1795. Attached to Esker convent in 1817 but 'on the secular mission'. Prior of Urlar in 1832 but dead by 1834. The *Ordo* for 1834 includes his obit.

**Lynch, Thomas D.** (1800-1839-): cl. at Esker, 1831. Already a priest before clothing (at the age of 31) or else ordained immediately after profession; styled the 'Rev. Thomas Lynch' when the second part of his novitiate pension was paid. No trace of studies. Res. at Esker, 1832-38; bursar in 1835. In January 1839, prior of Drogheda for one day: not finding the place 'as comfortable as he expected . . . he levanted and never drew rein until he found himself in Esker.' In autumn 1839: 'Tom Lynch ran away from his convent and promulgated a manifesto in which he exposes the wickedness, disorganization and uselessness of the friars and proposes the most sweeping measures for their reformation. He advises the bishops of Ireland to insist on the suppression and sale of six of our houses, that by the addition of the proceeds the other six may become respectable.' No further trace. Quotations from the letters of Bernard Goodman, O.P., provincial archives.

**McCarthy, Edward V.,** P.G. (c. 1800-1857): wrongly named 'John'; b. parish Boher, Co. Limerick; professed c. 1826 as a son of Kilmallock. Returned from Spain after his studies in 1831 to a curacy at Ballybricken (near Hospital), Co. Limerick, in diocese Cashel. Undertook, in Jan. 1832, to restore the ruins of **Kilmallock**. C.C. Dunlavin, Dublin diocese, from autumn 1833; and C.C. Blackditches (also in Co. Wicklow) by 1834. Prior of Newbridge, 1835-41 and res. there to 1843. At Drogheda for the rest of his life, where prior 1850-1 and 1853-5. Died 3 March 1857 and buried in the Chord cemetery, Drogheda. Notice by L. Taheny in *Reportorium Novum*, iii (1961-4), 161.

**McDonnell, Thomas Joseph,** S.T.M. (1799-1878): b. Feb. 1799 at Limerick for which convent cl. at Corpo Santo, Lisbon, 1816, but left immediately to make novitiate at college of St Thomas, Madrid. Nine years a student at Madrid; ordained a priest there, 1821. Res. Limerick 1824 to 1860; prior Limerick, 1833-7, 1850-6. Both McDonnells, Thomas and William (probably brothers) were removed from Limerick at much the same time, although res. there for upwards of 30 years: part of a plan to introduce 'observance' at Limerick. Thomas went to Athy in 1860 and d. there on 25 Nov. 1878. Tombstone in St Michael's cemetery.

**McDonnell, William Joseph,** S.T.M. (1797-1868): wrongly named 'Joseph'; sometimes styled McDonald; baptized 20 Jan. 1797 at Limerick where his family (from 1820) were the first in Ireland to manufacture margarine. Probably the brother of Thomas McDonnell, O.P. (q.v.). Cl. at Corpo Santo for the convent of Limerick, 1814; received tonsure and minor orders at Lisbon, 1815. One of the six novices and students who reached Rome from Lisbon in May 1816 under the care of Francis J. O'Finan O.P. At S. Prassede until May 1818 when the group moved to S. Maria della Pace; received remaining s.o. at Rome, 1818-19. Assigned to the Minerva as a collegian in March 1820 but may have lived at La Pace until ordered to Ireland in October 1821. Res. Limerick 1821-58; prior Limerick 1824, 1830-3. Prior provincial, 1836-40; in that capacity visited Rome in May 1838 with the Carmelite Father Whelan of Dublin. Res. Kilkenny in 1860; res. Galway 1862-63. No further trace until his death on 19 April 1868 and burial in the conventual vault outside the Dominican church in Limerick.

**McEvoy, Michael Dominic,** P.G. (1796-1876): wrongly named 'Thomas'; b. Abbeyleix, 29 Sept. 1796; professed at Corpo Santo, Lisbon, 1821; received all s.o. to diaconate at Lisbon, 1822-23; left

college Lisbon, 1825. Res. Annesley Bridge, Fairview, Dublin, 1829; at Dundalk by 1832 and at Sligo from 1837 until his death on 9 July 1876. Buried in Dominican church Sligo; brass plate on wall wrongly gives age as 92.

**Malony** (also **Molony**, **Muldowney**), **Michael Joseph** (c. 1794-1865): b. Limerick, for which convent cl. at Esker, 1812. Studies at Lisbon. Began his ministry in 1819, after which spent nine years 'in various parts of the province'. At Cork, 1819. Refused the priorship of Galway in 1825. Prior Waterford in 1828 and res. there in 1832 under John O'Regan (*q.v.*). Not having a chapel of his own, nor a Dominican companion, he served the cathedral at Waterford for the rest of his life. Died 7 Oct. 1865; buried Ballybricken with headstone. P. POWER, *Waterford and Lismore* (Cork, 1937), p. 285.

**Mooney, John Thomas** (c. 1796-1876): b. Ballinakill (south of Abbeyleix), Co. Laois; cl. Newbridge 1818 for convent Kilkenny; studies at Lisbon, 1819-23, but seems not to have been ordained there. Visited Rome in 1823 but returned to Ireland in the same year and given a curacy in diocese of Kildare and Leighlin. When reg. in 1829, res. at Graiguenamanagh, Co. Kilkenny, in the same diocese. Also in 1829 was refused permission to leave the Order and enter the diocese. Hence 'on the mission' in Kildare and Leighlin for the rest of his life. Curate at Clane, 1841; P.P. Rosenallis, near Mountmellick, from 1847 to his death in April 1876.

**Mullins** (also **Mullen**, **McMullin**), **Charles** (c. 1802-1833): b. Knockvogue, parish of Kilcroan, Co. Galway; cl. Esker for convent Sligo, 1827; studies untraced, When reg. in 1829, res. Castleivicogue, Co. Roscommon; then one of the scattered Roscommon 'community'. Res. Sligo in 1832 but died there in 1833.

**Murphy, James Thomas, P.G.** (c. 1798-1873): b. Kilkenny city; cl. at Esker for convent Kilkenny, 1819. Came to Rome via Genoa, already a priest, in Dec. 1820 and left S. Clemente for Viterbo in Jan. 1821. After studies Viterbo (1821-25), permitted to return to Ireland. Res. Dublin, 1826; Kilkenny, 1827-9; resident chaplain Dominican nuns, Cabra, 1829-30; C.C. in Dublin city, 1832. By Nov. 1833, a most unhappy C.C. in Ballitore, so his superiors sent him to Newbridge (1834) and Dublin, 1835-48. Res. at Esker, 1848-54 before going to Drogheda for the rest of his days. Prior of Drogheda, 1857-60 and 1868-72. Died at Drogheda, 11 March

1873. His chalice (dated 1857) still at Drogheda. Fine photograph in provincial archives. Portrait reproduced by [A. COLEMAN], *Souvenir of Calaroga Bazaar* (Dublin, 1899), p. 37. Notice by L. Taheny in *Reportorium Novum*, iii (1961-4), 163.

**Murray, James Thomas** (c. 1761-1839): wrongly named 'John'; cl. Donore near Killyon, Co. Meath (legally the convent of Trim) in 1787 for convent Mullingar. Ordained a priest at Navan in 1788 and went at once to Lisbon for his studies; left Corpo Santo for Ireland, 1795. Spent most of his life working for the diocese of Dublin. C.C. Lusk in 1805; C.C. Swords (under James Carey O.P., q.v.), 1808-16; P.P. Garristown, 1816-39. Built a chapel at Garristown (1827-9) where died on 3 June 1839. Notice by L. Taheny in *Reportorium Novum*, iii (1961-4), 163.

**O'Connor, John**, S.T.M. (c. 1780-1858): b. Cork city; cl. for convent Cork, probably at Lisbon where received all s.o. 1804-05. At work 'in Munster' from about 1809; certainly at Cork by Feb. 1815; subprior Cork, 1832; prior Cork, 1836, 1839-41. Died at Cork, 10 June 1858. Dominicans of Cork still have a large silver ciborium inscribed: 'Rev. J. O'Connor Dom. Con. Cork.'

**O'Gara, Dominic**, P.G. (c. 1771-1837): wrongly named 'Patrick'; professed for Strade convent c. 1792; place of novitiate and studies untraced. Began his life-long ministry in the diocese of Cork c. 1799. In 1808, subscribed from Cork to the Dublin edition of Barnaby Murphy's *Sermons*. In May 1814, attended a clergy meeting at the North Chapel, Cork, as P.P. Clontead near Kinsale. Died in that office on 26 July 1837.

**O'Loughlin, Patrick Hyacinth**, P.G. (c. 1792-1837): b. Longford, for which convent cl. at Corpo Santo, Lisbon, 1813; received all s.o. to diaconate at Lisbon, 1815-16, leaving for Madrid in 1816. Returned to Cork city about 1822. Appointed president Galway convent in 1825 but did not stay long, if he went to Galway at all. Res. at Cork from 1829 until his death on 23 June 1837. Buried beside St Mary's, Cork, 'towards the erection of which he devoted for the last five years every energy of his mind and body'. Remains recently removed to St Joseph's cemetery; brass plate from coffin now in conventual archives, Cork. Quotation above from the *Southern Reporter* newspaper.

**O'Regan, John Albert**, P.G. (1787-1860): b. Limerick; cl. 1804, probably at Lisbon where a student, 1805-09; received all s.o. at

Lisbon, 1807-09. Active 'in Munster' from 1811. Signed a protest with other regulars at Cork, 1815; res. Limerick 1817 and prior there 1823-29. Made P.G. in 1831. At Waterford with Michael Molony (*q.v.*) in 1832, but their plan to build a chapel frustrated by the bishop. Left for Rome on 1 Sept. 1834 as prior of S. Clemente, where remained until 1837. Returned then to Limerick where again prior in 1840 and 1843; spent the remainder of his life as prior of Kilkenny from 1843 until his death on 5 May 1860. The *Catholic Directory* for 1844 and 1845, followed by Carrigan, wrongly calls him 'Reardon' and later gives obit as 6 May. Original ordination certificates in provincial archives.

**O'Shea, John Thomas** (c. 1804-1842): place of birth and convent of affiliation unknown. cl. at Rome (La Pace) in 1823 and made novitiate there, taking religious name Thomas Aquinas. Res. at Rome, 1823-9; a priest by 1827 when admitted to Minerva as a collegian. In 1829, defended a printed thesis *De Revelatione* in the nave of the Minerva before Cardinal Cappellari and others. Returned a lector (S.T.L.) to Ireland in 1829. At Drogheda in 1832; res. Dublin in 1835 and at the time of his early death on 20 March 1842. This obit taken from L. TAHENY, *Necrologium Provinciae Hiberniae S.O.P.*, (Dublin 1953). *Catholic Directory* for 1843 says: 'Denmark St., on 29 March 1842, aged 37.' Defence of thesis described by G. MORONI, *Dizionario di Erudizione Storico-Ecclesiastica*, XVI (Venice, 1842), 30-31.

**Rush, Henry Vincent** (c. 1802-1856): b. Co. Galway; cl. at Esker, 1822, for convent Portumna; novitiate pension paid by the 'Rev. Mr Rush', probably Peter Rush, O.P. (*q.v.*). Studies at Lisbon, 1824-8, but not apparently ordained there. Res. Boula (Portumna), 1831-2 and again in 1841-2. The *Catholic Directory* places him at Boula in 1843 and at Esker in 1844. Died as P.P., probably in diocese Clonfert, on 7 Dec. 1856. Given an official obit by Dominican chapter and *Ordo*.

**Rush, Peter**, P.G. (c. 1765-1836): b. in or near Portumna, for which convent cl., probably at Louvain, c. 1785; received all s.o. at Malines, 1786-87. Working in Ireland from about 1793; res. Boula (Portumna) from 1796 until his death. Prior of Rathfran, a mere title, in 1799. The bishop of Clonfert obtained permission from Rome in 1801 to make him P.P. Portumna, which post he probably held until the 1820s when a diocesan priest was appointed by Dr Coen. Prior of Portumna in 1802, 1807, 1811, 1816-17, and 1819. In 1825 took out a lease on 82 acres for the space of three

lives, naming three grand-nephews, all sons of Michael Rush of Portumna. Died at Boula, probably in 1836, though the Dominican *Ordo* gave his obit only in 1839. Original will (1809) and lease (1825) in provincial archives.

**Russell, Bartholomew Thomas**, S.T.M. (1799-1890): b. Cork city, 25 March 1799; brother of Patrick B. Russell, O.P. (d. 1901) and uncle of Barth. H. Power, O.P. (d. 1869); cl. Corpo Santo, Lisbon, 1817; received all s.o. at Lisbon, 1819-22; returned to Cork, 1823. Secretary in 1829 to the group of regulars who objected to their exclusion from Catholic Emancipation. Laid foundation-stone in 1831 of present Dominican church, Cork, opened in 1839; prior Cork 1832-35. In 1848, laid the first stone of the present priory, Cork, being prior at the time, but in 1852 was moved to Dublin. Here again he was at once involved in procuring a site for a new church in Dominic Street but in the same year elected prior provincial (1852-56). Purchased property at Tallaght for a new novitiate, opened in 1856; introduced 'regular observance' in line with the reforms of Fr. Jandel, master general. Began the practice (at Tralee, 1854) of sending groups of friars to give parish missions; himself an excellent preacher, much in demand. Began to receive lay-brothers, of whom there had been none in the home-province since 1830.

Prior of Dublin, 1856-9, and res. Dublin until made prior Esker, 1863. Prior provincial again (1864-8), after which res. Dublin as prior to 1871. Prior of Cork, 1871-74, when the apse and chancel of his church were completed and the great baldachino unveiled. Prior of Dundalk, 1874-80, where he secured ground for a garden. Res. at Cork from 1880 until his death on 10 July 1890. Buried beside St Mary's; remains recently moved to St Joseph's cemetery. Monument and bust in St Mary's, Pope's Quay. Best account by L. COFFEY, 'Fr. Bartholomew Russell' in *The Watchman* (autumn, 1939), 42-47. Photograph and other details in J. A. DWYER, *Dominicans of Cork and County* (Cork, 1896), p. 93.

**Ryan, John Albert**, S.T.M. (1774-1852): b. Limerick; cl. probably at Lisbon, 1792; studies at Corpo Santo, Lisbon, where received all s.o. 1794-97; returned to Ireland, 1799. Res. Cork city from 1801 and from 1809 at Dublin where he 'held a place in one of the principal chapels.' His appointment (May 1807) to teach at Lisbon seems not to have taken effect. Early in 1812 went to New York with Patrick Lonergan, O.P. to escort a group of Ursulines from Cork and also (at the request of the vice-president of Maynooth) to discover the true state of Catholic affairs in the U.S.A. Visited

his friend William Harold, O.P. (q.v.) at Baltimore and returned to Ireland in 1813. Associated with the school at Bloomfield, Merion, 1813-16. A famous preacher, some of whose sermons were separately published, and one of which (on the Veto) caused the school to close. Res. Limerick, 1817, but in the same year went to Lisbon. Rector of Corpo Santo, August 1817 to September 1822, save for a brief period (May to Sept. 1821) during which his friend Harold was rector. Followed Harold to Philadelphia in 1823, but became embroiled in the same intrigues and returned to Ireland in July 1829. Named visitor-general of the Dominican nuns, Drogheda, 1836. Res. at Cork from 1829 until his death on 29 May 1852. Buried beside St Mary's, Cork. Portrait in provincial archives, reproduced by J. A. DWYER, *Dominicans of Cork* (Cork, 1896), p. 53. Other authorities give his obit as 20 and 30 May.

**Shaw, Laurence Thomas** (1751-1833): wrongly named 'John'; b. in Meath diocese, 16 April 1751; cl., probably at Louvain, for convent Mullingar; received all s.o. at Malines, 1777. Began ministry in diocese of Ossory. C.C. Durrow, Co. Kilkenny, in 1782 (when registered) and 1786. Prior Kilkenny 1786-87 and res. in the city by September 1788. He roofed the transept of the Black Abbey and repaired its walls, but the plan to open the church was prevented by the archbishop of Cashel and others in 1789. C.C. St Canice's, Kilkenny, 1788-92. In May 1793 appointed P.P. Ballivor and Killyon, diocese of Meath; pastor there for 41 years. Built a small thatched chapel near Ballivor, which he replaced by another in 1821; the second chapel had a bare clay floor. Named vicar of Donore, the house of refuge from Trim, in 1797. His tombstone at Ballivor (where d. 27 Oct. 1833) terms him: 'an exemplary and vigilant pastor; a mild yet zealous instructor . . . who entertained for his flock the affection of a parent.' No obit in Dominican *Ordo*. COGAN, *Diocese of Meath*, ii, 346, 366; iii, 261.

**Skelly, Denis** (c. 1786-1842): also Scally; wrongly named 'James'; b. Co. Longford about 1786. Nephew of Brian Keenan, O.P., of Longford convent, P.P. Kilcommoc, Ardagh diocese, 1800-1817; cl. Esker 1812 with his first cousin John Bannon, O.P.; studies at Lisbon, 1814-17, but apparently ordained already in Ireland. Briefly vicar of Corpo Santo in summer 1816, but soon came home. Already a curate in Ardagh diocese by 1832. Attended diocesan synod at Longford, 1834, as C.C. Cashel where res. to 1837. Died in Dec. 1842 as C.C. Carrickedmund. The two parishes he served adjoin that of Kilcommoc where the last Dominicans of Longford had their house of refuge.



**Smith, John** (c. 1759-1840): b. Carrickallen, Co. Leitrim; cl. about 1780, probably at Holy Cross, Louvain, for he received all s.o. at Malines in 1784-5. Remained at Holy Cross to teach philosophy, probably until the suppression of the college in 1794. Then served Dublin diocese; C.C. Balrothery, 1797-1802; P.P. Rush, 1802-04; P.P. Balrothery from 1804. In 1827 appears to have resigned in favour of a nephew (also named John Smith), but yet his provincial put him down as still P.P. in Co. Dublin, 1832. Thought to have retired to Carrickallen where died on 2 Feb. 1840. No obit in annual Dominican *Ordo*. Notice by L. Taheny in *Reportorium Novum*, iii (1961-4), 165-66.

**Smyth, Peter Dominic**, S.T.M. (c. 1796-1861): b. Galway city; cl. at Esker for the convent of Esker, 1814; studies at Lisbon where he received all s.o. save priesthood, 1817-20. From 1820 spent eight years 'working in Leinster, Connacht and England'; questing at Esker from 1823 and subprior there from 1824. In 1826, opened a 'free school', eventually attended by 600 poor children, some of whom he fed and clothed with the help of the earl of Shrewsbury. Prior provincial, 1832-6; prior of Esker, 1843-53. Largely responsible for a new church and convent at Esker on which work began about 1838. Opened the 'College of St Dominick' on 4 Aug. 1847, to teach both agriculture and letters. Long description of the schools, house of industry, college, etc. in the *Catholic Directory* (1850), pp. 193-4. Illustration of the new church and convent in the volume for 1851 (p. 380). Died at Esker on 6 June 1861.

**Tommins, John Raymund**, P.G. (1801-1842): b. Dublin; cl. Lisbon for Dublin convent, 1817; received tonsure and minor orders at Lisbon in December 1822 and left the city (for Rome?) in 1823. In July 1824 received a papal dispensation to be ordained a priest, though nine months too young. At work in Dublin from the same year. Subprior Dublin, 1832; prior Dublin from 1839 until his death on 14 May 1842. Buried in Richmond cemetery. Funeral inscription in *Irish Rosary*, ii (1898), 241. Volume of his manuscript sermons in the provincial archives.

**Urquhart, John Dominic** (c. 1798-1857): b. of Protestant parents, probably in Galway city; cl. Esker for Galway convent, 1823; studies at Corpo Santo, Lisbon, but no trace of his ordination there. Res. at Galway in March 1828 when his prior complained that he was back 'after only two years at Lisbon, wearing a soutane rather than the habit'. Bursar at Galway from June 1829 to Nov. 1830; prior Dundalk, 1831-2; res. Galway from 12 Sept. 1832 to



1836. Then went as a missionary to 'Upper Canada', but got no further than New York. For a while at Albany, N.Y., then at St Patrick's, Manhattan. Wrote home from New York in 1838 urging the foundation of a novitiate in New York State, lest the regulars should be driven from Ireland. Sent to Java, near Buffalo, in 1840. Returned to Ireland in 1842 but was refused an assignation to Galway. Joined the Cistercians at Mount Melleray but eventually went to Canada. Appointed P.P. Wellington, Prince Edward county, Ontario in the diocese of Kingston in 1855, but died there on 5 April, 1857.

**White, Robert Augustine Concanen**, S.T.M. (c. 1806-1885): nephew of Richard Luke Concanen, O.P., bishop of New York (d. 1810); cl. at Rome (La Pace) in 1822; moved with that community to S. Clemente; student at Viterbo from Feb. 1827. Admitted to the Minerva as a collegian in Nov. 1828 and took his lectorate (S.T.L.) there in 1830. Taught theology at S. Clemente 1830-1, in which latter year he returned to Denmark Street, Dublin. Prior Dublin, 1837-39. In 1841 visited Rome with Peter Smyth, O.P. (*q.v.*) to settle the problems of S. Clemente, and practically to hand it over to the French postulants gathered by Lacordaire. Again prior of Dublin, 1850-5. During this second term he was employed by Father Jandel, vicar-general of the order, to make visitations in Calabria and the United States (1851-2), which distracted him from the building of church and priory in Dominick Street, Dublin. Prior provincial, 1856-60; prior Dublin, 1864-8; prior provincial for the second time, 1868-72. Died at Dublin on 8 Jan. 1885. Buried at Glasnevin. Portrait in Tallaght, reproduced by [H. FENNING], *St Saviour's Church, Dublin, Centenary, 1861-1961* (Dublin, 1961), p. 11.